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WTO Committee on Agriculture

In December members met in the WTO Committee on Agriculture for the year's final 'agriculture week'. Concerning animal welfare and labeling, the EC and Switzerland reiterated that labeling could be an option to address some non-trade concerns without distorting trade. It would enable consumers to freely choose products that comply with their expectations in areas such as animal welfare and organic farming. In addition, labeled products could improve market access by increasing consumer confidence, they said.

Switzerland further agreed with the point made by the EU in its non-paper submitted in the September special session, that the *Green Box should be re-examined in order to enable states to compensate their farmers for additional costs that occur due to higher national animal welfare standards.

*In WTO terminology, subsidies in general are identified by "boxes." In order to qualify for the "green box", a subsidy must not distort trade, or at most cause minimal distortion. These subsidies must be government funded and not involve price support. Green box subsidies include environmental protection and regional development programs.

Source: BRIDGES Weekly Trade Digest, WTO

U.S.-Vietnam Trade Agreement

As of December 10, the bilateral trade agreement between the U.S. and Vietnam signed in July last year became legally effective. USTR Robert Zoellick and Vietnam's Trade Minister Vu Khoan exchanged documents implementing the deal. Through the trade pact, Vietnam was granted normal trade relations status with the U.S. According to the World Bank, the agreement will increase Vietnam's exports by US\$1 billion within four years.

Source: BRIDGES Weekly Trade Digest

Japan: Frozen Broiler Imports (in tons)

	United States	China	Brazil	Thailand	Total
2000					
June	8,225	19,367	7,966	11,168	46,726
July	9,460	18,377	10,155	10,213	48,205
Aug	8,708	18,343	14,610	10,365	52,026
Sep	6,306	14,973	9,969	9,758	41,006
Total	65,248	160,481	88,303	94,082	408,114
2001					
June	7,638	12,357	9,093	9,404	38,492
July	7,867	107	10,537	11,736	30,247
Aug	7,690	1	11,145	13,030	31,866
Sep	5,927	5,281	8,382	14,097	33,687
Total	57,530	103,644	73,243	95,204	329,621

Source: ALIC Monthly statistics

Argentina Poultry

For the year, poultry exports continued grow totaling almost 25 million metric tons. The result was an increase of 25 percent in volume and 41 percent in value. During September poultry exports increased to the Congo, Chile, Qatar, Germany and the Netherlands.

Trade sources in Brazil said Brazilian poultry exporters are willing to give up their initiative to open a WTO panel against the Argentine Government because of the minimum import prices for Brazilian poultry exports to Argentina. Poultry imports from Brazil dropped sharply in 2001. However, expectations are that next years exports will decline to insignifican levels that could justify a WTO panel.

Poultry Exports in Metric Tons, by Month

	2000		2001		%chg	%chg
	MT	US\$	MT	US\$	volume	value
Jan	1,642	1,115	2,706	1,965	64.8	76.2
Feb	1,768	1,583	2,597	1,874	46.9	18.4
Mar	2,454	1,461	2,251	1,671	-8.3	14.3
Apr	1,736	1,037	2,162	1,745	24.6	68.2
May	2,878	1,755	3,347	2,457	16.3	40.0
Jun	1,903	1,147	2,182	1,935	14.6	68.7
Jul	1,997	1,252	2,937	1,937	47.1	54.7
Aug	2,733	1,743	3,211	1,656	17.5	-5
Sep	2,736	1,497	3,443	2,493	25.8	66.5
Oct	2,523	2,056				
Nov	2,765	2,176				
Dec	2,593	1,581				
YTD	27,728	18,403				
Jan-Sep	19,847	12,590	24,836	17,732	25.1	40.8

Includes chickens, turkeys and ducks (whole, cut and products)
Value in US\$ in millions

Source: Secretariat of Agriculture, Cattle, Fisheries and Food (SAGPyA), USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service

Argentina's Exports Chicken, Chicken Cuts and by-products

January - September 2001, in metric tons					
	Germany	China	Hong Kong	Chile	Others
Jan	275	1,169	107	740	414
Feb	221	1,165	80	713	418
Mar	187	736	130	658	541
Apr	151	855	217	406	534
May	309	1,275	323	830	610
Jun	289	414	28	1,021	429
Jul	130	1,013	244	896	654
Aug	125	1,220	147	1,392	326
Sep	303	1,014	28	1,447	651
YTD	1,990	8,861	1,304	8,103	4,577
Total					24,835

Source: DNFA of SENASA, SAGPyA

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending Dec 15, 2001		Year-To-Date	
	2001	2000 /1	2001	2000
Liquid	245	230	12,880	7,437
Frozen	0	0	78	239
Dried	0	0	426	653
Total	245	230	13,384	8,329

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

	Week Ending Dec 15, 2001		Year-To-Date	
	2001	2000 /1	2001	2000
Liquid	180	22	5,844	4,855
Frozen	94	63	1,757	943
Dried	10	19	628	935
Total	284	104	8,229	6,733

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending Dec 15, 2001		Year-To-Date	
	2001	2000 /1	2001	2000
Jumbo	0	173	87	2,444
Extra Large	3,045	3,010	71,523	53,656
Large	5,070	11,465	140,003	156,577
Medium	197	1,808	44,094	40,701
Ungraded	13,770	4,500	446,890	393,044
Misc	720	510	71,084	13,247
Total	22,802	21,466	773,681	659,669

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

21-DEC-2001				
CHICKEN				
PRICES VOLUME				
(Cents per Pound)				

FAT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
CONTENT				
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED

PRICES VOLUME				
(Cents per Pound)				

FAT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
CONTENT				
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	- 13.00-14.00		131,600	-
WTD AVERAGE		13.69		
15-20%				
RANGE	10.00-13.00	9.00-12.00	1,540,000	1,213,600
WTD AVERAGE	11.20	10.75		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 15-Dec-01
(PRELIMINARY) **U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	1,945	1,403	3,348
LAST WEEK	1,901	1,684	3,585
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,900	1,202	3,102
TO-DATE/2001	89,036	69,241	158,277
TO-DATE/2000	94,278	71,787	166,065

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	344	0	344
LAST WEEK	392	11	403
SAME WEEK YR AGO	361	0	361
TO-DATE/2001	20,343	305	20,648
TO-DATE/2000	22,629	612	23,241

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	2,289	1,403	3,692
LAST WEEK	2,293	1,695	3,988
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,261	1,202	3,463
TO-DATE/2001	109,379	69,546	178,925
TO-DATE/2000	116,907	72,399	189,306

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

21-DEC-2001				
CHICKEN				
PRICES VOLUME				
(Cents per Pound)				

FAT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
CONTENT				
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	17.00		160,000	-
WTD AVERAGE	17.00			

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED

PRICES VOLUME				
(Cents per Pound)				

FAT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
CONTENT				
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	14.00-16.00	14.00-15.00	916,000	418,000
WTD AVERAGE	15.63	14.77		
15-20%				
RANGE	13.50-15.50	10.00-13.75	1,752,800	316,000
WTD AVERAGE	14.61	12.24		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	14.50	-	10,000	-
WTD AVERAGE	14.50			

* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 21 DECEMBER 2001.

The market was slowing on most items in response to the upcoming holidays. Domestic trading was light and centered on fresh tom breast meat. Offerings of bulk parts were mixed, mostly adequate to ample. Some spot availability was noted on tom 2-joint wings in the West, light in the balance of the country. Bulk meat offerings ranged from light at best on frozen thigh meat and frozen mechanically separated turkey for prompt shipments to instances burdensome on fresh tom breast meat. Offerings of 4-8 lb. breasts were adequate to ample. Export trading centered on a fair volume of tails, balance light. Trading was noted on frozen thigh meat for January, 2002 at lower trending prices.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2001**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	28.00		28.00	40	28.05	1,032
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		F	32.63	186		
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	28.00		28.00	52	28.00	52
TAILS	27.00-28.00		27.65	400	26.74	608
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	12.00-15.50		13.91	328	14.82	848
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	78.00-83.00		81.56	146	81.96	536

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2001**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	28.00		28.00	40
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		F	32.63	186
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		F	28.50	52
TAILS	25.00		25.00	208
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	14.00-16.00		15.00	120
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	81.00-83.00		82.11	350

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2001**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	28.00		28.00	744
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		F	32.63	186
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		F	28.50	52
TAILS		F	28.00	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/		T	15.00	320
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		T	82.00	40

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2001**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		M	28.25	208
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		F	32.63	186
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		F	28.50	52
TAILS		F	28.00	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	15.00		15.00	320
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	82.00		82.00	40

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2001**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	28.00-28.50		28.25	208
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		F	32.63	186
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		F	28.50	52
TAILS		F	28.00	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/	17.50		17.50	80
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	82.08	500

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.